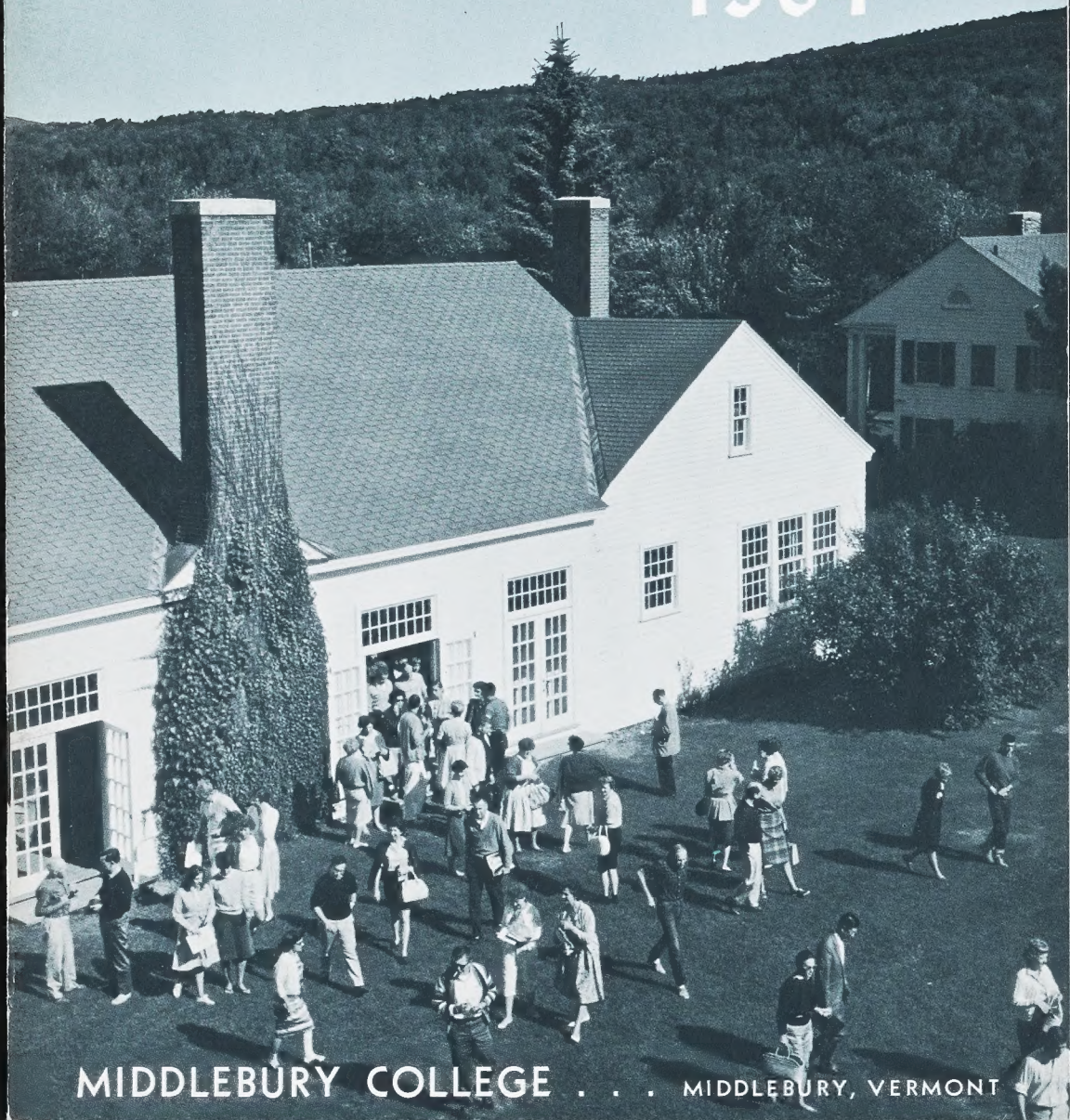


MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE BULLETIN

# Bread Loaf

# *Writers' Conference*

## 1964



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE . . . MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT



# MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE BULLETIN

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## The Cover

Between Lectures at the Little Theatre

## Photography Credits:

Paul Cushing Child: the cover; pages 8 and 12; the photographs of Mr. Nims, Miss Hale, Mr. Nemerov, Mr. Raney, Mr. Sloane, Miss Blake, Mr. Morrison, Mr. Upson, Mr. Ciardi, and Mr. Cubeta. George Hoxie: photograph of Mr. Brower. Jerry Yulsman: photograph of Mr. Wakefield, courtesy of *Playboy* Magazine. Max Peterson: pages 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 19.

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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Director of the Writers' Conference

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Bread Loaf Secretary

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

# Writers' Conference *at Bread Loaf*

August 12—August 26, 1964

THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

## FOREWORD

I am not at all sure I know how to describe Bread Loaf even after eighteen years of being on the staff. Bread Loaf is never quite the same thing twice. It is essentially a conversation, but though that conversation turns on the same questions year after year, the speakers change, and therefore the flavor of the conversation changes with them. There are years in which all the staff members seem benignly agreed and others when they fall to feuding. Let 'er rip! One constant of that conversation is honesty. There is no one way to be a writer. What Bread Loaf wants on its staff is a good writer who can be articulate about his work. What it expects of each writer is that he will say, as honestly as he can, what he is working for in his own writing.

Another constant of that conversation is the excitement it generates. Where else on this earth could one bring together that many good writers and editors and persuade them to talk so openly? There are more than sixty such conversations scheduled in the two weeks of the Conference, no two of them at the same time. The ideas and the insights come fast at Bread Loaf.

And they keep coming. For the staff conversation only begins the general conversation of the Conference. Bread Loaf Mountain always takes on the air of a cruise. Everyone is on the same voyage and for two weeks the world is hardly in sight. Everyone there is interested in writing. Inevitably, then, the talk continues from what the staff members have said in the Little Theatre.

Over dinner, over coffee in The Barn, on mountain walks, around the

swimming pool, and late into the night around the fireplaces, the talk is about writing, and everyone is in on that conversation. Some are professional writers (perhaps boasting a bit about their publications). Some are hopeful writers. Some (be it confessed) are hopeless. A few are canny tourists with an eye for a good inexpensive vacation and a taste for good talk. At least a third—and sometimes more than a third—are teachers. What they come for, I think, is the experience of hearing the writing process described from the inside, by writers rather than by professors.

All are welcome. And what all of them get is the excitement of mind well-articulated and of craft well-addressed. It is an excitement that keeps working long after Bread Loaf, for the conversation comes faster than anyone can absorb immediately. It takes weeks and months and years of thinking back to it to get this conversation adjusted to one's own sights. Or perhaps it can never fall entirely into place, and shouldn't. But to confusion or clarity, the stir of it is an experience I would not miss.

John Ciardi

Director



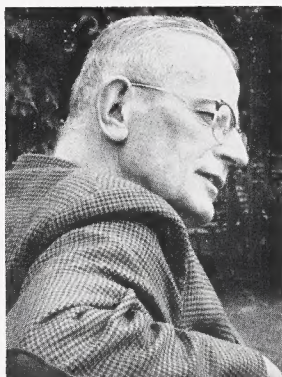
## THE STAFF

FICTION

NONFICTION

POETRY

**Brock Brower**, nonfiction writer, is a contributing writer for *The Saturday Evening Post*. He has written for many other magazines, including the *New York Times Magazine*, *Mademoiselle*, *Vogue*, *Horizon*, *Show* and *Esquire*. He has also contributed short stories and a verse play to two volumes of *New World Writing*.



**Dudley Fitts**, poet and critic, teaches English at Phillips Academy in Andover, Mass., and is the Editor of the Yale Series of Younger Poets. His books include *Poems 1929-36*, *Two Poems*, *Poems from the Greek Anthology* and *The Poetic Nuance*. He is the editor of *Antología de la poesía americana contemporánea* and *Greek Plays in Modern Translation*. His translations include Sophocles' *King Oedipus* and Aristophanes' *Lysistrata*, *Frogs*, *Birds*, and *Ladies' Day*. Mr. Fitts is a member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters.

**Nancy Hale**, short story writer and novelist, is the author of ten novels, which include *The Prodigal Woman*, *The Empress's Ring*, *Heaven and Hardpan Farm*, *Dear Beast*, and *Black Summer*. *A New England Girlhood* is a group of New Yorker pieces about her childhood, and *The Pattern of Perfection* is a collection of her short stories. In 1962 she published a volume of her lectures and essays entitled *The Realities of Fiction*. She is also the editor of *New England Discovery*.

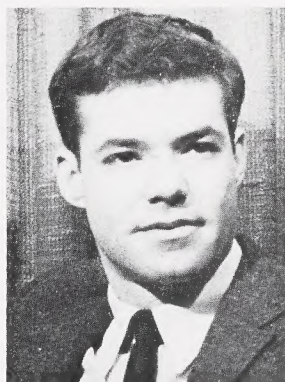


**Shirley Jackson**, novelist and short story writer, is the author of *Hangsamen*, *The Sun Dial*, *The Haunting of Hill House*, and *We Have Always Lived in the Castle*. Her short stories, which have been published in many magazines here and abroad and performed on TV and radio, have been collected in *The Lottery*. She calls *Life Among the Savages* "a disrespectful memoir of my children." She has also written two books for children: *The Witchcraft of Salem Village* and *Nine Magic Wishes*.



**Howard Nemerov**, poet and novelist, teaches at Bennington College. This year he is Poetry Consultant in English for the Library of Congress. His books of poetry include *Image and the Law*, *Guide to the Ruins*, *The Salt Garden*, *Mirrors and Windows*, and *New and Selected Poems*. His novels include *The Melodramatists*, *Federigo*, and *The Homecoming Game*. A *Commodity of Dreams* is a collection of his short stories. His latest collection of poems and plays, *The Next Room of the Dream*, and a volume of essays, *Poetry and Fiction*, appeared in 1963.

**Robert Pack**, poet, is an Associate in Poetry at Barnard College. A former Fulbright Fellow, he has published three volumes of poetry: *The Irony of Joy*, *A Stranger's Privilege*, and *Guarded by Women*. *New and Selected Poems* will appear this year. He is the author of three narrative poems for children and a critical study, *Wallace Stevens: An Approach to His Poetry and Thought*. He is co-editor of *New Poets of England and America*. His poems and essays have appeared in more than thirty magazines and anthologies.





**William Raney**, editor, is Editor-in-Chief of the Bobbs-Merrill Company. He has also held that position with Henry Holt and Company and Ivan Obolensky, Inc. Prior to that he had been a senior editor with E. P. Dutton and Company, and Rinehart and Company.



**William Sloane**, editor and novelist, is the author of *To Walk the Night* and *The Edge of Running Water* and editor of *Space, Space, Space* and *Stories for Tomorrow*. Formerly a vice president at Henry Holt and Company, editor at Funk and Wagnalls Company, and President of William Sloane Associates, he is Director of the Rutgers University Press. The senior member of the Conference Staff, he has been at Bread Loaf since 1944.

**Dan Wakefield**, journalist and nonfiction writer, is a Neiman Fellow in Journalism at Harvard University this year. He is the author of *Island in the City* and *Revolt in the South* and the editor of *The Addict*. His articles, essays, and reviews have been published in *Esquire*, *Commentary*, *Harper's*, *The Nation*, *New World Writing*, *Commonweal*, *Show*, *New York Times Magazine*, and *Herald Tribune Book Week*. He first came to Bread Loaf as a Fellow in 1957.



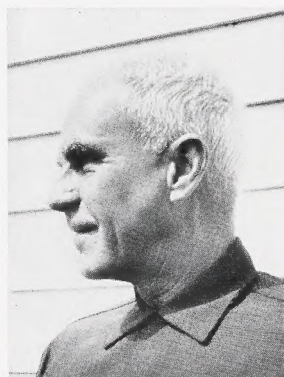
## JUVENILE LITERATURE



**Eunice Blake**, editor, is the former Vice President and Editor of Children's Books at J. B. Lippincott Company. Previously an editor at Thomas Nelson and Sons, the Macmillan Company and Oxford University Press, Miss Blake was instrumental in founding The Children's Book Council, which serves as the trade association of juvenile book publishers in this country. Miss Blake has been in charge of the Juvenile Literature program at Bread Loaf since it was established in 1957.

## SPECIAL LECTURERS

**Theodore Morrison**, novelist and poet, is Professor of English at Harvard University and for twenty-five years was Director of the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. His volumes of poems include *The Devious Way* and *The Dream of Alcestis*. He is the editor and translator of the *Portable Chaucer* and the author of *The Stones of the House*, *To Make a World*, and *The Whole Creation*.



**William Hazlett Upson**, short story writer and lecturer, has written over one hundred Alexander Botts stories for the *Saturday Evening Post*. A collection of them has been published as *The Best of Botts*. Mr. Upson has written *Earthworms Through the Ages*; *Hello, Mr. Henderson*; and *No Rest for Botts*. He has lectured at the Conference since 1931.



## ADMINISTRATION

**John Ciardi**, Director of the Conference, poet, critic and translator, is Poetry Editor of the *Saturday Review* and a member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters. A collection of his *Saturday Review* articles has been published recently as *Dialogue with an Audience*. He is the editor of *Mid-Century Poets* and *How Does a Poem Mean?* and the translator of Dante's *Inferno* and *Purgatorio*. His volumes of poetry include *As If, I Marry You*, *39 Poems*, *In the Stoneworks*, and *In Fact*. He has published seven volumes of children's verse, among them: *The Reason for the Pelican*; *I Met a Man*; *The Man Who Sang the Sillies*; *You Read to Me, I'll Read to You*; and *John J. Plenty and Fiddler Dan*.



**Paul M. Cubeta**, Assistant Director of the Conference, is Associate Professor of English and Chairman of the Humanities Division at Middlebury College. He has taught at Williams College and was a Carnegie Fellow in General Education at Harvard University. He is the editor of *Modern Drama for Analysis*.

## THE HISTORY OF BREAD LOAF

Bread Loaf Inn was opened as a hotel in the 1860's by Joseph Battell, who bred Morgan horses, kept the Morgan stallion register, and believed in the preservation of forests. He acquired over thirty thousand acres of forest lands and left this property, with the Inn, to Middlebury College in 1915. Most of the forest is now national forest; the Inn is no longer a public hotel, but the living quarters of two of the Middlebury College Summer Schools, the Bread Loaf School of English in the early summer and the Writers' Conference during the last two weeks of August.







Modern improvements and the addition of several new buildings have enhanced the charm and conveniences of the old original Inn and the surrounding cottages.

The Conference, the first of its kind in the country, began in 1926 under the direction of John Farrar, then editor of the *Bookman*, who was succeeded in 1929 by Robert M. Gay. Theodore Morrison became Director in 1932, and under his leadership the Conference gained much of the prestige which it commands today. In 1955 John Ciardi took over as Director. A major force in creating and sustaining Bread Loaf was Robert Frost, who was with the Conference until his death in 1963.

### LIFE AT BREAD LOAF

**Schedules of Lectures** There are three morning sessions and two afternoon sessions every weekday during the Conference. For the first week these hourly sessions consist of lectures by the various staff members. A typical day's schedule might read: 9:00 a.m., The Novel; 10:15 a.m., The Short Story; 11:30 a.m., Nonfiction; 2:00 p.m., Poetry; 3:15 p.m., Juvenile Writing. In these talks the staff members set forth the principles, premises, and techniques of the craft of writing as they see and practice it.

The same sort of schedule applies for the second week, but the sessions then become workshops rather than lectures and are primarily devoted to criticism, in which the whole group participates, of manuscripts submitted by Contributors.

There are, additionally, evening lectures every night of the Conference, Sundays included. In these evening talks, staff members and guest lecturers speak on whatever is closest to their hearts as human beings who write. During the second week each Contributor receives a private conference of about an hour with the staff member who has evaluated his manuscript.

No two lectures are scheduled for the same time. It is thus theoretically possible for a resolute Conference member to attend more than sixty lectures and discussions, but no one at Bread Loaf recommends such a marathon. A member is probably wiser to take in all the lectures and workshops in his own category and to sample the others while allowing himself an occasional break for coffee and talk at The Barn or a stroll through the Vermont countryside.

**Accommodations** No rooms will be ready for occupancy until Wednesday morning, August 12.









*The Porches at Maple*

The number of applications for Bread Loaf will outstrip the housing facilities. When the last room has been assigned, no further applications can be considered. Those who seriously intend to come to Bread Loaf, and above all, those who want special room assignments, would be well advised to apply as soon as possible. Anyone making application should be prepared to accept a double room as the single rooms are all chosen quite early. It is assumed that members will live on campus. The Secretary will make every effort to assure a satisfactory assignment.

A resident doctor and a nurse will be in attendance, and the well-equipped Porter Hospital at Middlebury is within easy reach.

**Meals** Meals are served at stated hours in the dining room of the Inn, which is operated and staffed by Middlebury College under the super-



vision of an expert and trained dietitian. No individual provision can be made in the dining hall for persons who require special diets.

**Snack Bar** Late breakfasts and afternoon and evening snacks may be obtained for a small charge. The snack bar offers short-order cooking as well as ice cream, sandwiches, hot and cold drinks.

**Waiters** A few positions are open for those desiring to earn most of their expenses by waiting on table. The compensation for Contributors is board, room, and partial tuition; for Auditors, board, room, and tuition. Application blanks may be obtained by writing to the Bread Loaf Secretary.

**Recreation** For those who are keen about outdoor life, the Conference is ideally located at the edge of Battell Forest, 1500 feet above sea level. A junction with the Long Trail—"a footpath in the wilderness"—which winds along the summit of the Green Mountains and extends from southern Vermont to the Canadian border, is a short hike from Bread Loaf.

Tennis courts and croquet courts are available. There is also a golf course in Middlebury. Saddle horses are usually procurable at reasonable



*Picnic on the Lawn*



*Walter Ross Leads a Workshop*

rates. Bathing beaches at Lake Dunmore, one of the most attractive of Vermont lakes, are twelve miles from the Conference. There is also swimming in the mountain streams at or immediately about Bread Loaf and in the Johnson Swimming Pool on campus.

**Transportation** The Bread Loaf campus is situated in the Green Mountains eleven miles from Middlebury, which is located on U.S. Route 7, half way between Burlington and Rutland, Vermont.

Members not arriving by car should come via the New York Central to Albany, N.Y.; or via the Vermont Central to Essex Junction (Burlington), Vermont, and make bus connections on the Vermont Transit Lines to Middlebury. There is no railroad passenger service direct to Middlebury. Baggage can be sent by railway express.

There are planes to Burlington from Boston via Northeast Airlines, and from New York via Mohawk Airlines.

There is bus service to Middlebury from Montreal, Boston, and New York City on the Greyhound and Vermont Transit Lines. Bus and plane schedules will be supplied upon request.

The Conference taxi meets all busses in Middlebury on August 12th.



## CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

**Contributors** Those who wish to bring manuscripts to Bread Loaf for criticism by a staff member should apply for admission as Contributors. Contributors are asked to submit, at the time of application, examples of the kind of writing of which they will later expect criticism at Bread Loaf. In general it is expected that Contributors will submit manuscripts in only *one* field. Work in progress or completed manuscripts may be presented for criticism. The Conference is unable to accept manuscripts of plays or television scripts. The Director reserves the right to limit the amount of material submitted by any Contributor.

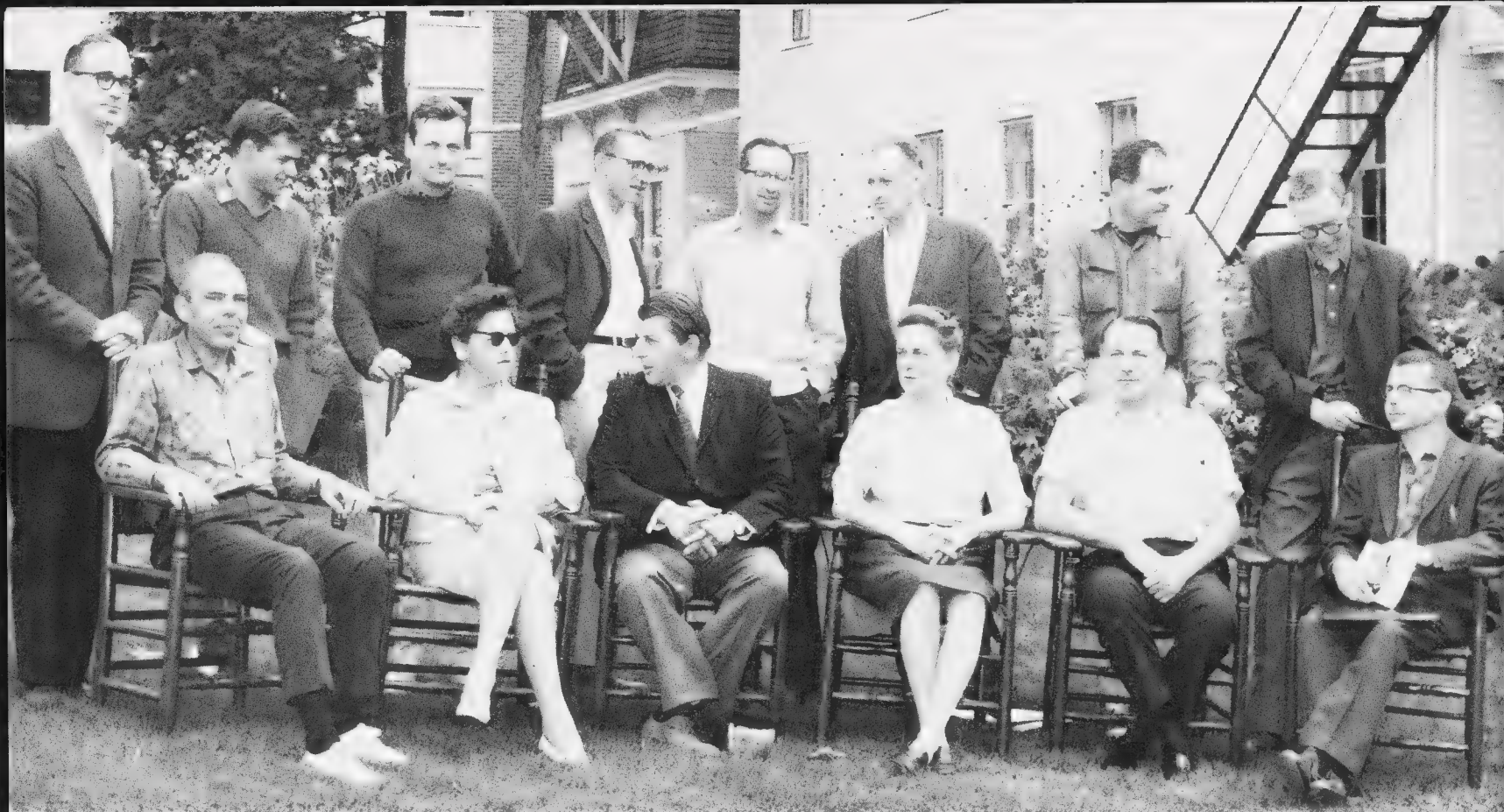
**Auditors** Those who do not wish to submit manuscripts should apply for admissions as Auditors. Auditors may attend all lectures and participate in all open discussions. They may not submit manuscripts for staff criticism; otherwise their privileges are in no way different from those of Contributors.

## ADMISSION

Both Contributors and Auditors are subject to selection. The basis of admission for Contributors will be the examples of their work they sub-



Cherry Cottage



THE STAFF, 1963

REAR: (left to right) Paul Cubeta, Robert Pack, Brock Brower, John Hawkes, John Frederick Nims, Nelson Algren, Walter Ross, William Sloane.  
FRONT: Hollis Summers, Cornelia Otis Skinner, John Ciardi, Eunice Blake, William Rancy, Mark Harris.



mit with their applications. First choice will be given to those who, in the judgment of a preliminary reader, show professional promise. But inexperienced or beginning writers will be admitted if the preliminary reader considers that they are likely to profit by the criticism of the staff. The basis of admission for Auditors will be any evidence the applicant offers of serious literary interest, such as published work or active concern with writing or teaching.

**Application Procedure** 1. Write for an application blank to the Bread Loaf Secretary, Old Chapel, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont.

2. Return the filled-out application to Paul M. Cubeta, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont.

3. If you desire admission as a Contributor, forward to Mr. Cubeta examples of your published or unpublished work *at the same time that you return your application blank*. As much material may be submitted as you feel is necessary to represent fairly the range and quality of your work.

All manuscripts must be clearly typewritten and will be returned only if accompanied by a self-addressed envelope and full postage or clear directions for return by express collect. A full and clear address



Charlotte Fleishman, Nelson Algren and Julia Ruff Leave the Little Theatre

should be written on all manuscripts as well as on all letters. Some time may pass before manuscripts can be returned, and it will therefore be an advantage to keep copies. The Conference assumes no responsibility for manuscripts lost in the mails or otherwise, but all possible care will be taken to prevent such loss.

4. If you desire admission as an Auditor, return your application, without manuscript, to Mr. Cubeta.

Applications are accepted only from people who intend to be present for the whole session. No reduction of rates is offered for part-time attendance.

The restrictions of space at Bread Loaf, both in classrooms and living-quarters, make it impossible to accommodate friends or relatives of members, unless they too are regularly enrolled members.

Contributors should bring manuscripts in their hand luggage so that they may be submitted to the Director on registration day. No manuscripts can be accepted after the second day of the Conference.

**Fees** The administration reserves the right to make any changes without notice in courses, staff, living arrangements, etc. The all-inclusive fees for tuition, board, and room are as follows:

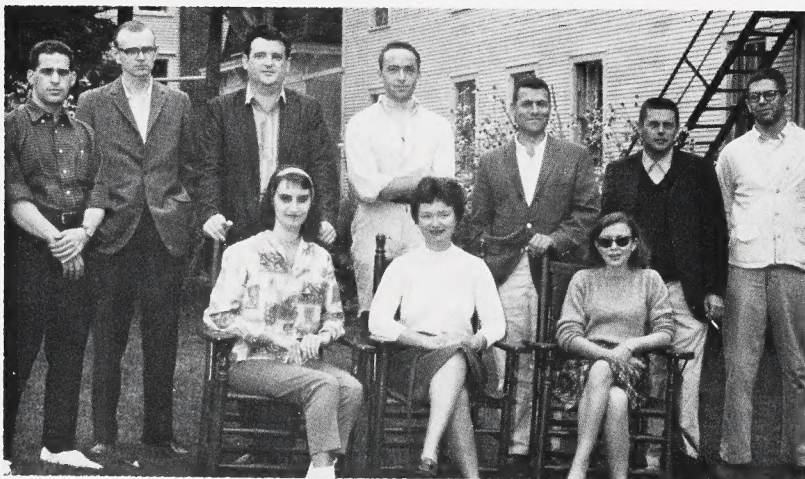
	Contributors	Auditors
Tuition	\$125	\$ 95
Board	\$ 55	\$ 55
Room	\$ 30-\$65	\$ 30-\$65
	\$210—\$245	\$180—\$215

The tuition fee includes a fee for an accident insurance policy with limited coverage. A nonrefundable registration fee of \$25 will be called for by the Bread Loaf Secretary at the time the applicant is notified that he has been accepted for membership. Rooms will be assigned only to those whose applications have been accepted and who have paid the registration fee. This fee will be credited against the applicant's total charges. *Please make all checks payable to Middlebury College.*

### FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Fellowships and Scholarships to the Writers' Conference have been made available through the generosity of anonymous friends and from the income of the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference Scholarship Endowment Fund. These grants pay all regular charges at Bread Loaf, but not traveling expenses. A committee of the Conference staff grants the awards guided by the following policies:





THE FELLOWS AND SCHOLARS, 1963

REAR: (left to right) Arno Karlen, Richard Underwood, Paris Leary, William Wetmore, Fleming Blitch, Charles Rose, Alan Levy. FRONT: Barbara Overmyer, Nancy Sullivan, Joan Didion.

1. Personal applications are not accepted. Undergraduates are eligible for Scholarships but not for Fellowships.
2. To be considered for either a Fellowship or a Scholarship, a candidate must be nominated by a magazine editor, publisher, literary agent, well-known writer, or college teacher. Nomination may be made informally in a letter to Mr. Cubeta.
3. Candidates for Fellowships are assumed, except in extraordinary cases, to have published a book or to have had a book manuscript accepted for publication.
4. Scholarships are awarded to encourage young talent which has not yet attained the distinction necessary to merit a Bread Loaf Fellowship. Candidates for Scholarships must show genuine literary potential but need not have published.
5. Those not awarded Fellowships are considered for Scholarships.
6. All nominations must be in the Assistant Director's hands by April 15. Supporting manuscripts or published work must reach him by May 1.

All of us at Bread Loaf are moved to offer our most grateful thanks to those good friends who have added this resource to the Conference. We have no doubt but that this endowment fund will serve over the years to aim many a good talent on the road it must go.

### **THE ROBERT FROST FELLOWSHIP IN POETRY**

This annual Fellowship in Poetry is sponsored by Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc., original publishers of Mr. Frost's poetry. The Fellowship covers full tuition, room, and board for the period of the Writers' Conference and is awarded to a poet of genuine promise.

### **THE BERNARD DE VOTO FELLOWSHIP IN PROSE**

Sponsored this year by the Houghton Mifflin Company in memory of the late Bernard DeVoto, long a member of the Conference staff, the Fellowship will be offered in 1964 to a writer of promise in the field of fiction or nonfiction.

### **THE FUNK AND WAGNALLS FELLOWSHIP IN PROSE**

This Fellowship, awarded annually by Funk and Wagnalls Company, provides full tuition, board, and room for an outstanding writer in nonfiction.

### **THE FLETCHER PRATT MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP IN PROSE**

Awarded by W. W. Norton and Company, Curtis Brown, Ltd., and friends of the late Fletcher Pratt, in memory of his long service and shaping influence at Bread Loaf, this Fellowship will pay all Conference expenses to a writer of merit in fiction or nonfiction.

### **THE BREAD LOAF FELLOWSHIP IN JUVENILE LITERATURE**

The Bread Loaf Writers' Conference is pleased to announce the continuation for an eighth year of a Fellowship in juvenile literature. The Fellowship will provide full tuition, board, and room to an outstanding young writer in the field of juvenile literature.







